

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-46. (canceled)

47. (new) A protective element, comprising:

a substantially square base with opposite planar sides;

two primary projections that each extend from a different respective one of said opposite planar sides; and

four auxiliary projections that each extend from a different respective corner of said substantially square base and that are spaced apart from each other by substantially equally sized recesses, each of said four auxiliary projections extending in a direction of a diagonal of said base crossing the respective corner and having opposite faces that are each substantially parallel to a respective said planar side of said substantially square base,

said protective element being heavier than water and constructed and arranged to rest on a feature to be protected from breaking waves.

48. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said primary projections are each in a middle of the respective one of said opposite planar sides.

49. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said primary projections extend opposite one another.

50. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said primary projections are oriented substantially perpendicular to said opposite planar sides.

51. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said primary projections have peripheries that are non-circular.

52. (new) The protective element of claim 51, wherein the peripheries of said primary projections are polygonal.

53. (new) The protective element of claim 52, wherein the peripheries are regular polygons.

54. (new) The protective element of claim 51, wherein said primary projections are square, and wherein each of said primary projections is oriented at 45 degrees with respect to said base.

55. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said primary projections have flat ends.

56. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein the protective element is made of concrete.

57. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein the protective element is made of a material that comprises a residue material from oil refining, and at least one of sand, granulate, and gravel.

58. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said opposite planar sides are substantially parallel.

59. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said auxiliary projections each have a pointed shape, with respective distal ends of said auxiliary projections defining a square.

60. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said auxiliary projections each have two flat sides that meet at a point and wherein each of said two flat sides is coplanar with a respective one of said two flat sides of an adjacent one of said auxiliary projections.

61. (new) The protective element of claim 47, wherein said opposite faces of said auxiliary projections are coplanar with said opposite planar sides of said square base.

62. (new) A protective element, comprising:

a substantially square base with opposite planar sides;

two primary projections that each extend from a different respective one of said opposite planar sides, each of said two primary projections being a substantially rectangular parallelepiped; and

four auxiliary projections that each extend from a different respective corner of said substantially square base and that are spaced apart from each other by substantially equally sized trapezoidal recesses, each of said four auxiliary projections extending in a direction of a diagonal of said base crossing the respective corner and having a pointed shape defined by two flat surfaces that are each coplanar with a respective

adjacent one said two flat surfaces of an adjacent one of said auxiliary projections,

said protective element being heavier than water and constructed and arranged to rest on a feature to be protected from breaking waves.

63. (new) The protective element of claim 62, wherein each of said primary projections is oriented at 45 degrees with respect to said base.

64. (new) A protective element, comprising:

a first parallelepiped having a first length measured along a longitudinal axis of said element and a first width that is less than said first length, longitudinal ends of said first parallelepiped being substantially square and substantially parallel to a first plane;

a second parallelepiped having a second length measured along the longitudinal axis of said element and a second width that is greater than said second length, said first length being greater than said second length and said first width being less than said second width, longitudinal ends of said second parallelepiped being substantially square and substantially parallel to the first plane,

said first parallelepiped extending symmetrically through a center of said second parallelepiped and being oriented so that longitudinal faces of said first parallelepiped are at 45° to longitudinal faces of said second parallelepiped,

each of the longitudinal faces of said second parallelepiped having two coplanar flat areas separated by a trapezoidal recess,

said protective element being heavier than water and constructed and arranged to rest on a feature to be protected from breaking waves.